

DEGREE PROGRAM TITLE: PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

AFSC(S): 4J0X2, Physical Medicine

PROGRAM GOAL: The goal of the **CCAF Physical Therapist Assistant Degree Program** is to prepare graduates for rewarding careers as medical professionals in the Physical Therapy Assistant field. This program provides students with the necessary knowledge and skills needed to effectively assist in the treatment and testing of physical therapy patients. Graduates will administer direct patient care and teach patients, their families and other health care providers how to perform selected physical therapy procedures. The program is designed to develop effective leaders of our most valued resource—our people—and cultivate managers of complex systems, processes, and technologies essential to the Air Force and our Nation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completion of this program students will be able to:

1. Plan, perform, implement and manage the delivery of physical medicine and orthotics in a safe and effective manner under the supervision of a physical therapist.
2. Conduct treatments utilizing special equipment, modalities, and other treatment procedures.
3. Fabricate splints and aid devices to protect or assist patients in achieving optimal independent physical function.
4. Train medical staff personnel in the therapeutic management of patients, including lifting techniques, safety and use of mobility equipment.
5. Ensure compliance with inspection and maintenance procedures and safeguarding of equipment.
6. Observe, record, and report patient response to treatment.
7. Assist physical therapist with wound and burn care.
8. Manage the release of medical information within the limits of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.